

Baker County Centennial Celebration May 4-7 1961



1861 Baker County 1961

GENE BARBER

Dedication--

THIS BOOKLET IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED TO OUR FOREFATHERS:

- . . . Who so bravely withstood the hardships and dangers,
- . . . To prepare for us our homes and the necessities of life,
- . . . That we might serve our God and Country,
- . . . In a way that would do honor to their memory.

Baker County Centennial Executive Committee

Luther Harrell, Chairman

Mrs. Wilma Morris, Vice-Chairman

Rev. O. Bruce Pickering, Secretary

Alan Harvey, Treasurer

Bar-B-Que Committee

W. M. Barber, *Chairman*

Mrs. Johnny Burnsed

Owen Crews

Clyde Gardner

D. W. Finley, Jr.

Mrs. J. H. Keller

Bob Lindle

Luther Mobley

Ernest Owens

Mrs. Bea Piatt

Ray Powell

C. H. Rochester

Fred Tyson

Booklet Committee

Rev. O. Bruce Pickering, *Chairman*

Gene Barber

Mrs. Asa Coleman

Mrs. Wilma Morris

Brothers of the Brush

'WASSIE'S POSSE'

Vernon D. Walker, *Chairman*

T. J. Barton

C. Y. Combs

L. R. Dugger

Elgin Fish

Claud Fraser

Tommy Fraser

Everett Johns, Jr.

J. H. Keller

Aubrey McCormick

Joe Rhoden

Finance Committee

William Knabb, *Chairman*

Mrs. D. C. Hancock

Freddy Roberts

B. H. Rowe

Ralph Sands

Claudell Walker

Centennial Fireworks Committee

E. L. (Teddy Bear) Yarborough, *Chairman*

Keith Griffis

Donald Stewart

Centennial Ball Committee

Mrs. Josh R. Rhoden, *Chairman*

Mrs. Claude Allen	Mrs. Edward J. Jasonek
Gene Barber	Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Byrd	Mr. and Mrs. Earl Logue
Mrs. Milledge (Bo) Canady	Miss Jane Long
Mrs. J. E. Combs, Jr.	Mrs. Ray Odom
Mrs. Zade Cowart	Earl Parish
Mrs. Billy Crockett	Mrs. K. Jay Reider
Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Davis	Mrs. Dolice Rhoden
Mrs. Boston Dicks	Mrs. Lamar Roberts
Mrs. Violet Dobson	Mrs. Jack Rogers
Mrs. Melvin Dowling	Mrs. Marjorie Sikes
Mrs. Maines Finley	Frederick S. Tyson
Mrs. Tommy Fraser	Mr. and Mrs. Don Voorhees
Mrs. Clyde Gardner	Mrs. Vernon D. Walker
Mrs. Frank Green	Mrs. Jim Walters
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Griffis	Mr. and Mrs. Billy Wells
Mrs. L. L. Hatcher	Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Harvey, Jr.

Centennial Belle Committee

From the Business and Professional Women

Mrs. Stockton Milton, *Chairman*

Mrs. Freddie Jack Morrison	Mrs. E. L. Yarborough
Mrs. J. C. Yarborough, Sr.	

Derby and Tie Committee

Steve Weldon, *Chairman*

Lewis Covin	W. D. McCook
Claud Fraser	Freddy Jack Morrison
Tommy Fraser	Ray Odom
Everett Johns, Jr.	Mrs. R. P. Taylor
Mrs. J. H. Keller	

Dress Promenade Committee

Mrs. A. E. Smith, *Chairman*

Mrs. George Bennett	Mrs. J. A. Godwin
Mrs. Ira Burnsed	Mrs. Paul Mikell
Mrs. Milton Clark	Mrs. Wilma Morris
Mrs. Donald Dobson	Mrs. John Rowe
Mrs. Maines Finley	Mrs. Claudell Walker
Mrs. J. E. Franklin	Mrs. J. C. Yarborough

Dress Revue Committee

Mrs. Milton Clark, *Chairman*

Gene Barber	Mrs. Ray Powell
Mrs. Maines Finley	Mrs. Fred Tyson
Mrs. Hershel McIntyre	Mrs. Claudell Walker
Mrs. Freddie J. Morrison	Mrs. Jimmy Walters
Mrs. Ray Odom	Mrs. Billy Wells

Centennial Horse Frolic Committee

B. H. Rowe, *Chairman*

Members of the Baker County Riding Club

Parade Committee

A. E. Smith, *Chairman*

M. J. Gazdick, *Parade Marshall*

Walter Davis	Mrs. A. V. McGlashan
Wassie Fish	W. B. Nagle
W. T. Mann	Mrs. B. Vining

Religious Heritage Day Committee

Rev. Charles Merchant, *Chairman*

Rev. O. Bruce Pickering	Rev. Lawton B. Thomas
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Committee on Review Stand

Glen Williamson, *Chairman*

Aubrey Greene	T. J. Raulerson
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Centennial Ski Show Committee

Billy Knabb	Billy Wells, <i>Chairman</i>
Claudell Walker	

Square Dance Committee

Vernon D. Walker, *Chairman*

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Harvey
Mr. and Mrs. Charlie McCormick
Mr. and Mrs. Claudell Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Thrift
Mr. and Mrs. E. Ed Yarbrough

Committee On Sound System

E. L. Yarborough, *Chairman*

J. C. Yarborough

Store Decorating Committee

Mrs. Randolph Chisholm, *Chairman*

Mrs. Johnny Burnett

Mrs. Lige Walker

Mrs. Lawrence D. Green

Window Display Committee

Mrs. W. C. Gilbert, *Chairman*

Gene Barber

Mrs. Everett Loadholtz

Mrs. Johnny Burnsed

Mrs. Milledge Reynolds

Mrs. Violet Dobson

Mrs. J. P. Taylor

Mrs. S. L. Drawdy

Mrs. Jimmy Walters

THE BAKER COUNTY SENIOR BAND

Directed By McRay C. Thompson

Janice Rhoden

Alice Faye Milton

Roger Pickering

Anne Harris

Leon Mobley

Gayle Raulerson

Don Beasley

Kathy Sikes

Denny Wells

Mary Alice Wheelless

Barbara Prevatt

Patsy Lawrence

Dianne Prevatt

Betty Croft

Frita Driggers

Susan Nagle

Judy Watson

Sandra Taylor

Glenda Sue Prevatt

Melody Smith

Roma Kay Bennett

Janie Nagle

Wayne Officer

Marsha Milton

Richard Patterson

Judy Rowe

Dale Rhoden

Ina Gail Burnsed

John Lee Dugger

Eva Joyce Knabb

Casey Wilkerson

Janet Rhoden

Joe Webb

Jane North

Gary Combs

Jo Ann Pllum

Judy Tillman

Evie Thornton

Mittie Ann Drawdy

Danny Walker

Janice Thrift

Noel Bethea

Merrill Bethea

Kenneth Tyson

Linda Johns

Nina Mobley

Joann Dobson

Pam Rewis

SANDERSON CENTENNIAL DEDICATION SERVICE AT THE ORIGINAL SITE OF THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1961 3:30 p. m. Sanderson, Fla.

P R O G R A M

Music by the Baker County High School Band

Master of Ceremonies _____ (R.W.) W. A. Kirsopp
Opening Prayer _____ (R.W.) Johnnie W. Yarbrough
Dedication of Site _____ (R.W.) B. J. Padgett
Address _____ (M.W.) Roy T. Lord, P. G. M.*
Benediction _____ (R.W.) Brantley Fraser
Co-Chairmen _____ B. J. Padgett and W. A. Kirsopp
Co-Sponsors _____ Dawkins Lodge No. 60, F. & A. M.

Sanderson Lodge No. 122 F. & A. M.

* Mr. Lord, State Grand Master in 1957. He comes from an original Baker County Family that lived between Sanderson and Olustee.

CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL SERVICES

OLUSTEE PARK MONUMENT

U. S. HIGHWAY 90

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1961

4:30 P. M.

P R O G R A M

MUSIC BY THE BAKER COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Master of Ceremonies _____ E. Ed Yarbrough
Invocation _____ Rev. Charles Merchant
Pledge Allegiance to United States Flag Rev. L. B. Thomas
Salute to Confederate Flag:

I Salute the Confederate Flag with affection,
reverence and undying remembrance.

'Dixie' (everyone sing) _____ Led by Mrs. Billy Wells

Introduction of _____ James D. Baker, Jr.

(Mr. Baker is the grandson of the late Judge
James McNair Baker for whom this county
was named.)

Solo "Suwannee River" Mrs. A. Luther Harrell
 Introduction of Alvin C. Chase
 (Mr. Chase is the Past President of the Florida Stake Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints. His family history goes back to Sanderson.)

"The National Anthem" Everyone stand and sing
 Benediction Rev. J. D. Williams

THURSDAY MAY 4, 1961 8 P. M.
 Street Dance Thrift Hardware Parking area on U.S. 90
 No Admission charge.

THE CENTENNIAL CAVALCADE

Friday Evening May 5, 1961 7:30 p. m.

Baker County High School Football Field, Macclenny
 Master of Ceremonies Gene Barber

CONCERT BY THE BAKER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

(Members of band listed in booklet)

DRESS REVUE: A showing of different centennial outfits
 by local people of all ages.

Narrator Mrs. Maines Finley

JUDGES: Mrs. Keith Black of Lake City
 Mrs. Lulie Bloodworth of Lake City
 Mrs. Margaret Long of Jacksonville
 Harold Baker of Jacksonville

PRESENTATION OF LOVING CUPS NOVELTY ACT

BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH BEARD GROWING

CONTEST: Prizes to be given to:

Group 1. Beard started before February 8, 1961.

Group 2. School Boys

Group 3. Beard started after February 8, 1961.

THE MISS CENTENNIAL BELLE CONTEST:

To select a Miss Centennial Belle to reign over the Centennial Festivities.

JUDGES: Mrs. Waldo Norris
 Jack Dew

THE "CAN-CAN"

NOVELTY ACT: The Charleston by Miss Judy Watson
 and Miss Elaine Rowe

CROWNING OF THE MISS CENTENNIAL BELLE

FIREWORKS Sponsored by Rayonier, Inc.
 (Concession Stands will be open.)

PROGRAM FOR SATURDAY, MAY 6

- 10:00 a. m. Joe Bodrie Western and Film Star known as the "Fastest Gun Alive" will be at the EdRay Theatre in Macclenny, sponsored by Ralph Sands of Griffin Motor Co. No admission.
- 2:00 p. m. Centennial Parade will begin in Macclenny at the corner of U.S. 90 and East Boulevard proceed on U.S. 90 west, turn south on 6th street and continue to South Boulevard where it will turn east to the Baker County High School Building.
- 4: p. m. Bar-B-Que at the Football Field in Macclenny. Admission charge.
- 8 p. m. Centennial Ball will be held in the High School gym and cafetorium. Admission charge.

PROGRAM FOR SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1961

Each church planning to celebrate its Christian Heritage in its own churches during the morning worship hours.

OUR CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COUNTY-WIDE RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

Baker County High School Football Field 5 P. M.

(In case rain threatens service will be held in
High School Gymnasium)

Service under the director of _____ Rev. Charles Merchant
Pastor, Glen Baptist Church

Pianist _____ Mrs. Randolph Chisholm

Song Leader _____ Rev. O. Bruce Pickering
Pastor, First Methodist Church

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM

Congregational Singing

Prayer of Invocation _____ Rev. J. D. Williams
Pastor, Taylor Congregational Methodist Church

Recognition of Special Guests

Special Choral Music _____ Members of the Baker
County Singing Convention

Christian Heritage Sermon _____ Rev. Lawton B. Thomas
Pastor, Macclenny Church of God

Prayer of Benediction _____ Rev. Cecil M. Hayes
Pastor Manntown Congregational Holiness Church

PRE-CENTENNIAL EVENTS

Activities for the Centennial got off to a good start on February 13th. During the night the "Quantrell's Unwashables" stole the dipping vat which the "Brothers of the Brush" planned to use with the Kangaroo Kourts. It had been placed beside the Citizens Bank on Fifth Street. The vat was later found at the High School.

The Centennial Promenade Committee started its program March 4th at Macclenny. The Committee moved to Glen St. Mary March 11th and then back to Macclenny March 18th. March 25th saw the ladies in Sanderson and in Macclenny again April 1st. Olustee was the next town on the list April 8th to be followed on the 15th at Macclenny and April 22nd at Taylor. The final promenade was held in Macclenny April 29th. Wassie's Posse rounded up many throughout the county to be tried at the Kangaroo Kourt. "Brothers of the Brush" who organized the court and tried the offenders, metted out justice with frequent trips to the dipping vat. Court sessions were held in Macclenny on March 18, April 1st, April 15th and April 29th. The "Brothers" were in Sanderson on March 25th, Olustee April 8th and Taylor on April 22nd.

Square dances were held in Macclenny on the parking area in front of Thrift's Hardware Store on Thursday March 9th and each Friday night from March 17th through April 28th. These dances were sponsored by the "Brothers of the Brush" as a part of the pre-centennial celebration.

A fine Water Ski Show was held at Ocean Pond Sunday afternoon, April 23, 1961. Water Ski groups from Jacksonville came to perform for the people of the county. A nice crowd enjoyed the lovely weather and enjoyable entertainment.

The Macclenny Garden Club presented a Flower Show—"Glory of the Earth" on April 28th and 29th at the Club Home in Macclenny. Mrs. A. P. Holt is president of this club.

As a final event to the pre-centennial activities the Macclenny Riding Club presented a Centennial Horse Frolic Sunday April 30th at the 4-H Club Building on U.S. 90 in Macclenny. The show drew a good crowd as people began preparing for the four day celebration.

HOW IT BEGAN

How does a Centennial Celebration begin? What is the moving force behind all the work and effort that brings such an observance into existence. Though each county differs in means and methods one thing is clear—the people of the county must want it and want it badly enough to go to work. No anniversary is possible without it. Let it be noted that the citizens of Baker County had a will to work and work they have.

During the latter part of 1960 the Baker County Press had been reminding the citizens of the county that our Centennial was fast approaching. No detailed suggestions were offered but the note of urgency could not be avoided. Ray Odom, president of the Lion's Club, appointed a Committee of Luther Harrell and O. Bruce Pickering to call some people from the county together to find out if there was any real interest in a celebration of this kind.

On January 16th about 50 interested citizens from the county gathered for a meeting. Out of this meeting came several concrete proposals. First, it was agreed that there should be a Centennial Celebration. Secondly, it was determined that we could plan and promote the Centennial by using local talent. Thirdly, the dates of May 4-7 were selected for the celebration, even though the actual centennial was Feb. 8, 1861. Finally a permanent Executive Committee was selected consisting of: A. Luther Harrell, Chairman; Mrs. Wilma Morris, Vice Chairman; Rev. O. Bruce Pickering, Secretary and Alan Harvey, Treasurer.

Two weeks later a second meeting was held at which time over 150 persons were present. Former State Senator J. Slater Smith and County Agent Emmit McCall both from Clay County, spoke briefly to the group about the centennial held recently in their county. They offered many suggestions and answered questions about the plans, problems and program of their centennial.

From this time on the "die was cast" and plans began to shape up. The Centennial Celebration was on its way.

THANK YOU

The Centennial Executive Committee wishes to express appreciation and thanks to all who have contributed time, money, effort, equipment, items of historical interest, and-or anything else which has helped to make the Baker County Centennial Celebration a success.



The McClenny Hotel which was built by C. B. McClenny, for whom the town was named, in the 1880's, dur-

ing the yellow fever epidemic. The picture was taken around 1902. The building stretched for one block.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS IN BAKER COUNTY

By: *Centennial Historical Committee* *

Any history that is relevant must of necessity contain three elements: People, events which were caused by or happened to these people, and some method of recording these events. Most of the people who lived in Baker County 100 years ago were too busy making history to take the time to record it. This lack of records makes it difficult for one living in 1961 to write clearly and accurately as desirable.

Another factor involved in writing the history of 100 years ago is that those who were living then could not really know what we today might consider important, even if they had thought about it.

This is not to say that there are no records available, for there are. They can be found in many places: Court House, Newspapers, Family Bibles, Legal Documents and of course history and events handed down from one generation to another.

Although the records we have are not as complete as we should like, they are sufficient to give us a good picture of what has happened in the county this past 100 years.

* *Historical Committee:*

Let it be noted that writing the history of Baker County for this Centennial Program is not the undertaking of one person, but of many. Much of the material used was collected over the years through hard work and painstaking efforts, but at the same time a labor of love. This historical record, then, is the fruit of many hundreds of hours of reading, writing, listening and evaluating on the part of many people. While we have drawn mostly from the sources readily available, we do not mean to imply that these are the only records available. However there was not sufficient time to search for other sources.

The nature of this history is chronological. We have attempted to show some of the more important and sometimes amusing or tragic events that occurred during these 100 years. It is regrettable that some important things may be omitted and some trivial events included. But it is sent forth as an honest appraisal of some of the things that happened to some of the people in Baker County during the last 100 years.

The Historical Committee

On October 24, 1820 the King of Spain approved the treaty drawn up for the purchase of Florida. Nearly four months later the treaty was ratified by the United States Government. Andrew Jackson was appointed the first Governor of the new territory while Col. James Grant Forbes was named as U. S. Commissioner and ordered to sail to Havana to receive orders for the surrender of Florida to the United States.

Four days after he took office, on July 21, 1821, Jackson decreed that all of Florida east of the Suwannee River and all the southern part with the islands adjacent thereto should be called St. Johns County; and all west of the Suwannee River should be given the name of Escambia.

During the next 23 1-2 years Florida remained a territory ruled by a Civil Government with the Governor appointed by the President of the United States at a salary of \$2,500 a year. A delegate to the Congress maintained relations with the Federal Government. Appointed by the President at first but following the Act of March 30, 1822, the delegate was selected by the people of Florida.

William P. Duval of Kentucky became the first Civil Governor, appointed by President James Monroe, and served for 12 years. He was followed by John H. Eaton, Richard Keith Call, Robert Raymond Reid and the former governor of North Carolina, John Branch.

The area now known as Baker County was a part of five counties before the State Legislature passed and the Governor signed the bill February 8, 1861 bringing our county into existence. From July 21, 1821 to August 22, 1822 we were a part of St. Johns County.

Duval County was created in 1822 and we remained a part of this county for the next six years. The area now known as Baker County was a part of Alachua County from November 23, 1828 until February 4, 1832 at which time Columbia County was created. We were a part of this county and remained so until December 21, 1858 at which time the area was divided into three counties. Columbia, Suwannee and New River. We remained a part of New River County until February 8, 1861 when Baker County was formed and the remaining part of the County was renamed Bradford on December 6th of the same year.

One might ask why it took so long to become the county we now are. The obvious answer is people, or rather the lack of them. Perhaps a look at the area comprising Baker County will be helpful. In 1830 there were less than two

inhabitants per square mile whereas the areas east and west of us contained up to six inhabitants per square mile. Based upon a total square mileage in the county of 583 square miles it will indicate an approximate population of 1,000, or less. The probable figure is closer to 500.

But the main question we are really faced with is, "Why were there so few inhabitants in this area?" I believe there are at least four answers to this question.

1. First, there were no rivers in the area large enough for commercial travel. This meant that settlers coming into the county had to come some way other than aboard a ship.
2. Secondly, much of this area was swampy and wet. Many places were not suitable for farming without draining the water from this area. Only one road is listed through the county in 1834. Called the Main Post Road it ran from Jacksonville to Lake City passing through the county as far north as the junction of the St. Marys River and the South Prong branch of the river. It is not likely that this road was used too much for east, west travel since a map made in 1840 for the U. S. Senate by Capt. John Mackey and Lieut. J. E. Blake failed to show it on their map. They do, however, show a road running from Jacksonville to Alligator (Lake City) entering the county just west of Thigpense which just about follows the present route 90.
3. Thirdly, a look at the map will show clearly that Baker County lies due south of the great Okefenokee Swamp. People migrating south from Georgia had to circle the swamp either to the east which brought them into the Jacksonville area or to the west bringing them into the Lake City area. Even today there are no roads running north and south thru the swamp and people still circle it.
4. The fourth factor was the boundary dispute with Georgia which resolved around the question of where the headwater of the St. Marys river should be located. Though the boundary line had not been surveyed from the concourse of the Flint and Chattahoochee rivers east to the St. Marys river; El-

Ellicott had drawn a line just south east to the St. Marys River at 30 degrees, 30 minutes, just about five miles north of what is now Baxter.

There Ellicott had erected a mound and designated it as the headwater of the St. Marys River. William Cone, a member of the Georgia Legislature in 1817, claimed that the line should be drawn from the rivers to the beginning of the south branch of the St. Marys river, which is at the edge of the county south of Olustee. Such a line would have placed the biggest part of the county in Georgia, but more than that would have given to the State of Georgia the tidy little sum of 1,507,200 acres. After four surveys the dispute was finally settled in 1866 with Georgia agreeing to the line actually drawn by Ellicott.

Because of the lack of status of this area it became difficult to govern and "courted lawlessness".

Such were the reasons for the slow populating of the area we now call Baker County.

A fifth reason, though not one of the major ones, was the continuation of the Indian problem. History books tell us that the "bloody" Seminole war ended in 1842. There are accounts of fighting and small raids following this date.

Before we get into the area of the county itself it is fitting that we take up a short history of one of the most important events that happened to the people of the county. The completion of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad probably affected more individuals in the county, and their way of living, than any other one thing, for it made a radical change in the mode of travel. Following are excerpts from a historical paper sent to Mrs. Asa Coleman by the Seaboard Railroad in March 1961.

The first predecessor company of the present-day Seaboard Air Line Railroad to serve Macclenny and Baker County was the F. A. & G. C. R. R. Co., which was incorporated January 24, 1851, 'to construct and operate a railroad and from the St. Mary's River on the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico in West Florida as located by the State Engineer.' It was not, however, until 1857 that actual construction of the line began, directed from the com-

pany's principal office in Jacksonville.

"The railroad tracks reached to Baldwin on April 1, 1859, and in October of that year were built into Olustee. In May of 1860 service had been completed to Lake City.

"The line was built with a five-foot gauge and laid with 50 and 52-pound iron rail—the weight is determined by the heaviness of one lineal yard of the rail. It is likely that the tracks reached Macclenny sometime in August of 1858, since construction was proceeding at the rate of about two miles a month.

"The company was operated by its own management until March 4, 1868, when it fell on rather barren days after the Civil War and was purchased by a newly formed company, the Florida Central Railroad Company. In 1882 the line was sold at public auction for \$395,000, and the property conveyed to the Florida Central and Western Railroad Company. By 1886 this 60 miles of track had become a part of a system known as the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, which company was taken over by the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company in 1889. In 1903, it became part of the Seaboard Air Line Railway—forerunner of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company today.

"Certainly the little Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central faithfully served Baker County and Macclenny until growers and producers of all kinds were able to send their shipments along connecting lines to other parts of Florida, and to receive shipments from other parts of the state, other part regions of the nation, and across the seas."

During the Legislative session of 1861 there was introduced an Act to Organize A New County To Be Called Baker County. Briefly this Act said:

Section I "Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened. That there shall be constituted a new county to be called Baker County, which shall comprise within its limits all that part of the Territory of the present county of New River which lies North of the centre line of township four South, of Range eighteen East."

Section II of the Act spells out procedures for the election of County officials whose names are found elsewhere in this booklet.

Section III says: "That the County site of said county shall be fixed at Sanderson until otherwise provided by law,

and the commissioners chosen be authorized to provide suitable county buildings."

Section IV deals with the terms of Court and procedures of how papers and cases pending can be transferred to Baker County.

Section V spells out terms of Circuit Court for New River and Nassau Counties.

The final section, VI, deals with Railroad Stock, Taxable Property and Bonds of the County.

"Passed the House of Representatives Jan. 25, 1861.

"Passed the Senate February 2, 1861.

"Approved by the Governor February 8, 1861."

Thus Baker became the 39th county created in Florida.

Baker County was named for Honorable James McNair Baker, former Judge of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Florida, which Baker County was a part of at that time. Judge Baker was, during the Civil War period one of Florida's two Senators in the Confederate States Congress at Richmond.

D. C. Prescott on July 23, 1861 made up and sent to Robert C. Williams, Comptroller of Public Account, a list of the taxpayers of Baker County. This list contains 163 names and the Florida Railroad Company. Many names on the list are familiar to one who lives in Baker County for some of the families are still here. We thought our readers might find the list of taxable items interesting even though taxes have gone up considerably.

STATE OF FLORIDA— BAKER COUNTY REVENUE FOR 1861—TOTALS

1. 'All white males, over 21 and under 50 years, except paupers,, idiotic and insane persons — 50 cents each.
Number polled—112 Value \$56.00

2. "All Real Estate, comprising lands and improvements, buildings, manufactories and mills of all kinds, distilleries, furnaces, machinery, tan yards, ferries, toll bridges and warves, 1-6th of one percent or 16 2-3 cent upon the 100.

No. of acres of land 14,688; value of land \$21,316.00; improvements \$39,050.00

3. All slaves 1-6 of one percent upon value: Number 212; Value \$7,100.00.

4. All pleasure carriages, stage coaches, wagons, carts and drays, 1-6 of one percent upon value \$2,820.00.

5. All horses, asses, mules, meat cattle, swine and sheep 1-6 of one percent upon value.

Horses, asses, mules No. 208—value \$19,595.00; cattle, swine and sheep—No. cattle 4809—value \$23,800.00. No. sheep and swine 5574. Value \$8,103.75.

6. All household furniture, including gold and silver plate and musical instruments, 1-6 of one percent upon value. \$8,095.00—\$460.00.

Following is a most interesting letter which speaks for itself. It is reproduced exactly as written.

*Sanderson Fla
July 23rd 1861*

Mr Robert C Williams

Comptroler of public accounts

Dear Sir

I have made the assessments of the taxes of Baker County Florida that I could and as quick as possible and have made up my Books and forward on to you according to instruction. I never don such a thing before and had no one to tell me how to fix up the Books to and the Different laws refers to in the instructions I could not get them is no use to write to Villedor to attend to any business as it appears that he has been conversing carled in doing anything anymore if I was to wait to him to send me the Books now perhaps I might get them a bout next Christmas but I have done the best that I knew how and I hope it will all be right you will please send the instructions back as early as convenient as I want to commence collecting as early as possible as I may be called out in the service this fall and I would like to clear up the business before I go or come as near as I could

Yours Respectfully

De C Prescott

Sanderson, Fla.

July 23, 1861

Mr. Robert C. Williams

Comptroler of public accounts

Dr.

Sir I have made the assessments of the taxes of Baker County the best that I could and as quick as possible and have made up by Books and forward on to you according to instruction I never don such a thing before and had no one to tele me how to fix up the Books to and the Different

laws referred to in the instructions I could not git them is no use to write to Villepege to attend to any business at it appears that he has become very carles in doing anything anymore if I was to write to him to send me the Books now perhaps I might git them about next christmas but I have done the best that I Knew how and I hope it will all be right you will pleas send the instructions back as early as con-veinant as I want to commence collecting as early as possible as I may be called out in the Service this fall and I would like to close up this business before I go or come as near as I could.

Yours Respectfully,

D. C. Prescott

About a month prior to the forming of the new county called Baker, the Florida State Convention meet in Tallahassee on January 3, 1861 to consider secession from the Union. There was no question about the necessity of it in the minds of the representatives though some wished to delay until other Southern states acted. Ohers felt an ordinance of secession should be submitted to the voters for popular approval. But on January 10 the convention adopted the ordinance of secession by a vote of 62 to 7.

This of course brought many changes to the people of Baker County as well as the rest of Florida. "As the Civil War got under way, Florida was something of a question mark. It was never a solid unit of the Confederacy but it was a thorne in the side of the Federal forces for Florida



This home was typical of many homes built in the 1860's in Baker County. The above home is the birthplace of Rev. T. Paul Taylor of Macclenny.

produced supplies for the Southern armies and provided dozens of ports for blockade runners." A steady stream of fathers, husbands and sons left the small towns and the farms to join with those of sister states in the cause for states rights. As far as we know there are no statistics of the total number of men who left from this county but we know that most families were affected in one way or another as the men left for the camps.

Charles Waterman writing in *SUNTIME* September 19, 1953 had this to say about Florida's participation in the war: Major General Q. A. Gillmore thought that by invading northern Florida from Jacksonville could cut off the Confederate supply source, secure recruits for colored regiments and get a Union outlet for the state's products. The Jacksonville-Lake City railroad was the logical target of such an invasion.

"Historians are of the opinion that the expedition could have had little bearing on the outcome of the war but some believe it might have turned into a march of destruction similar, on a smaller scale, to Sherman's expedition in Georgia. With considerable secrecy and numerous divisionary activities, Union troop transports reach the mouth of the St. Johns river on the morning of February 7, 1864 with a naval escort and proceeded up the river without opposition except for sniping by Confederate guards.

"On the following day, the troops were disembarked and Colonel Guy V. Henry's cavalry began a series of probings of Confederate defenses to the west. On one occasion, Henry's men reached the hastily constructed breastworks of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, commander of the B. District of East Florida, at Lake City.

"By the time the battle of Olustee was joined, February 20, 1864, the two armies were of about even strength but each side thought it was meeting a superior force."

"Previous to the battle of Olustee was the skirmish at the south fork of the St. Marys river at Barber's plantation. It is reported in the booklet "The Federal Campaign of 1864 in East Florida" page 9. This booklet distributed by the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials, Tallahassee, Florida and written by Mark F. Boyd is the most complete account of the battle that we have ever seen. Mr. Boyd says: "Encouraged by the lack of resistance, Henry was ordered to continue his advance to the west. He reached the ford of the south fork of the St. Marys river at Barber's plantation on the 10th, where he was opposed by a



Photo from the Florida Historical Quarterly, April 1954.

Scene of the fight at the Plank Bridge over Big Creek, at Barber's, February 19, 1864.

small force of about 150 infantry. Casualties were listed at about 25. Barber's was described as a house, barn, three shanties, two rail fences and a creek. The Confederate losses were placed at two killed and two wounded. Barber's on the St. Mary's became the headquarters for the fight at Olustee.

We should like here to insert some excerpts from letters written by a northern Lieutenant and a Confederate soldier. Charles M. Duren of Bangor, Maine, enlisted in 1861 in the 24th Massachusetts Reg., and saw much service. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant 1863 in the 54th Mass. Vol. Inf. (a Negro reg. with white officers.) The original letters, of which these are only a part are in the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, U. of Fla.

His letters to his mother and father describe the landing at Jacksonville and movement to Baldwin where they captured "immense quantities (?) of cotton—one full battery rifled guns—and one or two stray guns." About the soldiers captured he says: "Men captured are a greater part of them Florida men belong in state, they are glad to take the oath—and go to their homes, but I would not trust them as good Union men out of my sight, that's as much confidence as I have in them."

On February 27, 1864 Lieutenant Duren wrote from Jacksonville, seven days after the battle of Olustee:

In the Trenches Again
Jacksonville, Florida
February 27 1864

Dear Father:

"We are back again to this place from whence we started two or three weeks ago. Have had a hard campaign. Pushed 30 or 40 miles into the interior had several skirmishes. One fight where the enemy made a strong stand in force, too large for us to contend with. We fought them two hours when we retired in good order. Ammunition getting scarce as well as provisions.

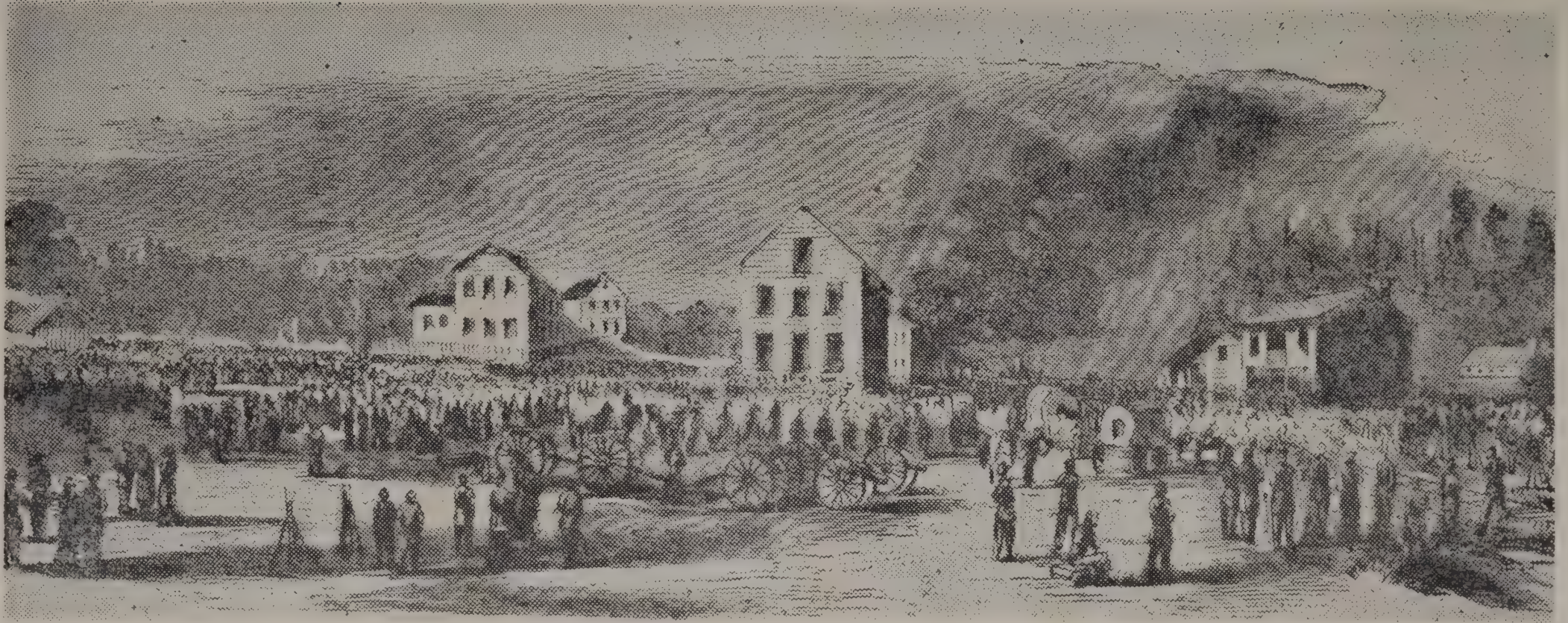
"I can not say how long we shall remain here—but we are here now—living on the ground no shelter and not much to eat—but we are tough—can stand it.

Your affectionate son,

C. M. Duren, Lieut—54th M. Vol."

Mrs. Wilma Morris makes this comment about the battle:

"Lieut. Duren's outfit was under command of Gen. Seymour, U. S. A., and he was probably among the troops



Scene at Sanderson in 1864 as Union forces occupied town. This engraving shows Union forces occupying Sanderson, which was then

the county seat, just before the Battle of Olustee and only three years after the founding of Baker County in February, 1861.

encamped at the Barber plantation Feb. 10, '64, where Col. Barton, U. S. A., made the Barber House his HQ's.

"At 7 A. M., Saturday, the entire column (3,000 troops) left Barber's down main road (old stage plank road) to Lake City. 3 A. M., the next morning, found them back at Barber's. The Federal troops retreated in an orderly fashion towards Jacksonville. The Plank Road was strewn with their discarded paraphenalia, but this was not their only remembrance left to Baker County; the Barber Bridge and Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central trestle were burned, the Barber slaves (numbering over 100) were freed, the Barber woman harassed and 2,000 barrels of turpentine destroyed by burning at Mattox Crossing."

Letters written during 1863-64 by James R. Terrell during the time he was serving in the Civil War.

On September 19, 1863 in Levy County he mentioned of hearing several cannons and plenty of gunboats out at the keys. He wrote that salt was worth \$10.00 a barrel and that he had shipped some home to his family. There was lots of sickness among the men in camp, according to his letter of September 28 and stated that Bragg has had a very heavy battle and have captured four thousand prisoners with the loss of fifteen thousand of his men.

"Camp Finigan

Dec. the 30th, 1863

Dear Wife: I received the Sugar Cane you sent me by Rogero. I was glad to hear you were all well and mending. Dear Wife I can say to you that I am not well my back is not well yet. I hope these few lines may find you all enjoying of good helth. I can say to you we have orders to bee ready to march at any time but dont let this grieve you but let you Prayers be Raised to God that we may bee delivered and Return home to our families again. When you hear that we are gone you must enquiry at Waldo for the things I may send to you. May God so Bless the world and People as to give Peace on earth once more and so Bless our families as to See each other once mor on earth, wife and Children have Faith in God and pray earnistly for our deliver and peace on earth, You may continue to send your letters to Camp Finigan till you hear we have left here. I will inclose twenty dollars in one Bill to you and you must write whether you get it or not and if you get it I will send you some more. So nothing more at present only I Remain your affectionate husband till death.

James R. Terrell

"To Nancy Terrell and family

We are a living very hard. I have not ate any bread in better than two weeks.

“Olustee Station on the Railroad of Tallahassee

February 16, 1864

Dear Wife I am in Good health hoping these lines may finde you the same and the children the yankeys is in our country and we are all safe yet their is a plenty of yankeys hear dont be uneasy about me for we must run them out of the Country. We have a quantity of Soldirs from every Part. We have a line of men about three miles long. I lost all of my Bedding but one Blanket. I Saved all my clothing you go on with your Business Just like you did before for we must get them out if possible for they leave negros to guard the Place they take but the whites dont trouble the women They dont burn anything if they take anything they leave it again. I have not received any letter from you in a long time as soon as I get there I can I will write again if you get any chance you must write to me. I have not chance to write. Nothing more only I Remain your affectionate husband till death.

James R. Terrell

To Nancy Terrell and family.”

In closing out this part of the history of the county at Olustee we want to list the following statistics taken from the booklet—“The Federal Campaign of 1864 In East Florida”—P. 29.

The casualties reported by both sides after the action are summarized below: Federal: killed, officers 11, men, 192, total 203, wounded officers 42, men 1110, total 1,152; missing, officers 2; men 504; total 506. Total officers 55; men, 1806, total 1861.

Confederate: officers killed 7; men, 86; total 93; wounded officers 49; men 798; total 847; missing officers 0; men missing 6; total 6. Total officers 56, men 890, total 946.

One of the most interesting events to happen in Baker County during the last 100 years was the election of 1876. Not only were the eyes of the nation upon those living here but actually people from other lands were anxiously awaiting the outcome of this election.

The whole issue grew out of the local situation and the race for Governor but as we have said affected the nation as a whole. Here is the story: Union Army Veteran Marcellus L. Sterns, Carpetbagger boss of a Negro County Machine sought the nomination for Governor in 1872. Even though he was nominated by the Republican State Conven-

tion he was forced as a result of opposition to take second place on the ticket. The Governor, Ossian B. Hart died in office— March 16, 1874 making Sterns the Governor. In spite of objections throughout the state he was nominated to succeed himself.

The Democrats nominated ex-Whig— George F. Dres who was born in New Hampshire but had lived in the south since about 1840. During the election "the Republicans used fraud and Federal troops while the Democrats countered with threats against the Negroes."

Edward C. Williamson has written: "First returns indicated that the vote in Florida would be very close. With the Presidency of the United States at stake, national figures soon flooded the state. To an anxious nation a partisan state canvassing board announced a Republican victory. Unwilling to accept this verdict and at the same time rejecting the proposal of extremists to physically oust Sterns from the Capitol, Drew sought recourse within the law. The Republicans dominated state Supreme Court acted favorably on his request for a writ of Mandamus which compelled the state canvassing board to reconvene and recanvass the vote for Governor and Lieutenant Governor without going behind the returns.

"Drew was now declared the victor. But Sterns sought to retain the Governorship. Up until the Inauguration Ceremony it was feared by the Democrats that he would attempt to physically keep possession of the capitol. Though this fear failed to materialize, Sterns, as late as Feb. 1877, was still sounding out state Radical leaders on the possible continuance of the fight for the governorship."

Governor Sterns wrote of this election as follows: "The political canvass in Florida in 1876 was unusually vigorous, spirited and exciting on the part of both political organizations. But the election on the 7th of November was generally peaceable— save the lawless demonstration made early in the morning of the day by destroying the telegraph line at several points and tearing up the railroad track and burning three of its trestle bridges—one a few miles east of Tallahassee and one a few miles west from Live Oak in Suwannee county for the purpose of cutting off communication between the states and United States authorities—the U.S. Marshal being at the time in Live Oak ready to cooperate with the State authorities for the preservation of the peace. All communication was thereby suspended with other parts of the State throughout the entire day

until night when the lines were again repaired."

"On the 8th up to the time the information was received that the National Election would turn on the result in Florida— about 4 p. m., the state was conceded to the Republicans— as a candidate of the party for the office of Governor, I received many congratulations from prominent Democrats about my election "on the day after election ,it was known that 20 counties had given a net Republican majority of 5,348 and that the other 19 counties, if they maintained the same comparative gains on the rate of 1872, would give a net Democratic majority of 2,566 which taken from the net Republican majority left the State to the Republicans by 2,792 majority. Thus matters stood on the 8th and hence it was that the State was generally conceded o the Republicans by an increased majority over 1872. As soon, however, as the news was telegraphed from New York that the result of the National ticket depended on the result in Florida, the whole Democratic Camp was aroused.

The Canvassing Board questioning fraud decided to send messengers from Tallahassee . . . "to all the counties not yet reported to ascertain the vote and get it announced as quickly as possible, also to get certified copies of county and precinct returns and collect any and all facts it was possible to obtain bearing on the election. The first messengers dispatched by special train that night soon returned and reported that two rails had been removed from the track and their train ditched about three miles out from Tallahassee."

. . . "When our messengers finally got through on the railroads and took teams for these distant counties they found the roads picketed with armed men who threatened their lives if they attempted to proceed and that they were thus prevented from reaching most of these distant counties— that the returns were held back until the county began to demand them, then they were sent in only after it was too late to get certified copies or other evidence of their fraudulent character and made to show a Democratic increase of 115 per cent over their vote of 1872 instead of less than 3 percent shown in their counties reported before the importance of Florida was known. Having a very full knowledge of the political situation in the State at the time, I am unable to account for this difference except upon the basis of wholesale and systematic fraud committed in the interest of the Democratic State and National tickets and

I believe most of it was obtained in that manner. Many Democrats have since asserted that their success was not at the polls but affected after the election and that they would prove it beyond dispute if I would contest the office of Governor in the Courts with my opponents—from my knowledge of the facts, I am convinced that it was the intention of the Democrats to make the returns show 100 majority for the Tilden electors and they would have succeeded in making them show 90 majority as they claim if one of their own counties had not failed them. This was BAKER COUNTY—a small Democratic County which gave 95 Democratic majority but was returned by the County Canvassers, by throwing out two precincts, 41 Republican majority, which made the returns from all counties in the state show on their face 45 majority for the Hays Electors. An effort has been made to create an impression that this change in Baker County was effected by Republicans. This is a great mistake. The facts are these: The County Canvassers were Democrats partaking of the general spirit and who followed the precedents of their party. In this county two Democrats were running for the Legislature, Mr. Gurganus, the regular nominee of his party and Mr. Canova as an independent Democratic candidate. The Republicans made no nomination but supported one of the other of these candidates. Mr. Canova up to this time had been an extreme partisan and one of the most active workers in his party and the contest became very bitter and personal in the county. Canova was defeated, but charged that his defeat had been procured by unfair means, intimidation and fraud at these two precincts. A majority of the County Canvassers being his ardent supporters, listened to his complaints with favor, threw out the two precincts and returned Canova elected. Thus it was that the fraud in Baker County (as it is called) grew out of a local fight among Democrats and was done by Democrats for Democrats.”

Someone has written: “The election of 1876 heralded the beginning of the down-fall of the Reconstruction Governments in the states of the defunct Confederacy. It is ironic that a Republican President was instrumental in returning to the Southern states their desired form of Democratic government, and who encouraged the North to embrace her humbled sisters. Being a very human and intelligent man, President Hayes was probably not a little moved to this action by being placed in the Presidency by

one of those southern states, Florida. Thus irony was returned for irony. The South owes a great deal to this man who crossed party lines when the conscience of the world demanded it.

"It is worthy to note that Baker County, through her own small internal problems, was the instigation of a process which resolved itself into one of the most amazing political coups in America, and even world history: the reuniting of a nation, and the comparatively peaceful returning of Democracy to a group of impoverished but proud and Constitution-loving states."



Pictured above are Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Taylor—61 years ago. Both are natives of the Taylor section of Baker County.

We felt that it might be interesting to list the road districts for two reasons: 1st it is clear that at this time Sanderson was the population center of the County as well as the County Seat. 2ndly these roads represent the main thoroughfares of the county other than the railroads.

February 17, 1877, Road Districts set.

Road leading from Sanderson to Lake Butler and Starke to the county line constitutes First Road District.

Road leading from Sanderson to Olustee and to the county line constitutes Second Road District.

Road leading from Sanderson to Raulerson's Ferry and from Sanderson to Socum Road half mile northeast of New Topia constitutes Third Road District.

Road leading from Sanderson to the Darby Old Still at Trail Ridge Cut constitutes Fourth Road District.

The first Courthouse at Sanderson had burned in 1877. This not only had destroyed all the records but made it necessary for the County to hold meetings elsewhere. We do not know where these meetings were held but suspect it might have been some public building or store. In any event plans were forthcoming to build a new one.

June 3, 1878. Ordered that contract for building Court House be given to Gurganus and Sweat, their bid being lowest at \$1,800.00

July 1, 1878. Three (3) mills assessed as special tax to build the Court House.

September 2, 1878. Court House received from Gurganus and Sweat completed. Insured for \$1,200.00 with a premium of \$18.00 per year.

Feb. 6, 1882 BOND FOR RETURN OF DIGEST LAWS:

Know all Men by these presents, that we Richard D. Davis, John Jones and W. A. Drake, all of the County of Baker, State of Florida, are held and firmly bound unto William D. Bloxham, Governor of the State of Florida and his Successors in Office in the sum of Twenty-five dollars lawful money of the United States for the payment. Whereby we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and Administrators, jointly and severally by these presents.

The condition of this obligation is such that, Whereas the Clerk of the Circuit Court on and for said County has pursuant to law delivered to the said Richard D. Davis, who is a County Judge in and for said County, one volume or copy of the Digest of the Laws of Florida, known as McClellan's Digest.

Now if the said Richard D. Davis his heirs, executors

or administrators shall on the expiration of his official term as such County Judge return said copy of said Digest to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of said County, then this obligation shall be void, but otherwise to remain of full force and virtue.

Witness our hands and seals this sixth day of February A. D. 1882.

Signed: R. D. Davis, John Jones, W. A. Drake.

The above Bond is approved—F. J. Pons, Clerk Circuit Court Recorded in Folio 80 of Book of proceeding County Commissioners.

Though we cannot say just when Darbyville (McCleny, original spelling) was begun it is first noted in the records on August 3, 1885. There can be no doubt that the center of population was shifting east. Various signs pointing toward this trend are seen in the following notes:

January 5, 1885. Glen District made from Sanderson and Darbyville. Charles Eiserman, W. H. Congleton, H. L. Reed and George L. Taber appointed as a committee to examine and divide District 1 and 3, known as Sanderson and Darbyville Districts. Said District to be known and termed as Glen St. Mary District No. 5, to be bounded on the East by the Range line dividing 21 and 22 and on the West by the middle line of 20 and 21, said committee to approve above boundaries.

April 13, 1885. County Precinct boundaries given.

It is hereby ordered that the report of Committee appointed, viz: G. L. Taber, H. L. Reed, Charles Eiserman and W. H. Congleton to create and divide a new district to be called Glen St. Mary, No. 5, to be recieved and that the boundaries and description of the several precincts in the County of Baker be published in the Baker County Standard for four consecutive weeks, according to law.

Viz:

Sanderson Precinct District No. 1 is bounded as follows: On the north by Township line 1 and 2, on the east by the Middle line of Range 21, and running from the Bradford County line on the south until it intersects the St. Marys River on the north. The south boundary shall be the County line of Bradford and Baker Counties. The west boundary of the Range line dividing 19 and 20.

Olustee Precinct District No. 2, bounded on the north by Township line 1 and 2 and on the east by Range line dividing 19 and 20, on the south by the line of Bradford County, on the west by the County line dividing Columbia

and Baker Counties.

Darbyville Precinct, District No. 3, all of the County east of the Range line dividing 21 and 22 and running north on said line until it intersects the South Prong of Little St. Marys until it empties into the St. Marys River.

Johnsville Precinct District No. 4, all of that portion of the County lying north of the Township line dividing 1 and 2, beginning west and running east said line to the center line Range 21, then north on said line to the St. Marys River.

Glen St. Mary District No. 5, commencing at the County line on the south, the east line shall be the Range line dividing 21 and 22, running north to said line, until it intersects the South Prong of Little St. Marys River, thence following the South Prong of Little St. Marys until it empties into the St. Marys River. The west line shall be the Middle line of Range 21 and running from the Bradford County line on the South until intersects the St. Marys River on the north.

These County Precinct Boundaries are given mostly to show the areas of the county. Since they frequently are a good indication of population one can get a fine picture of the spread of people in the county nearly 75 years ago.

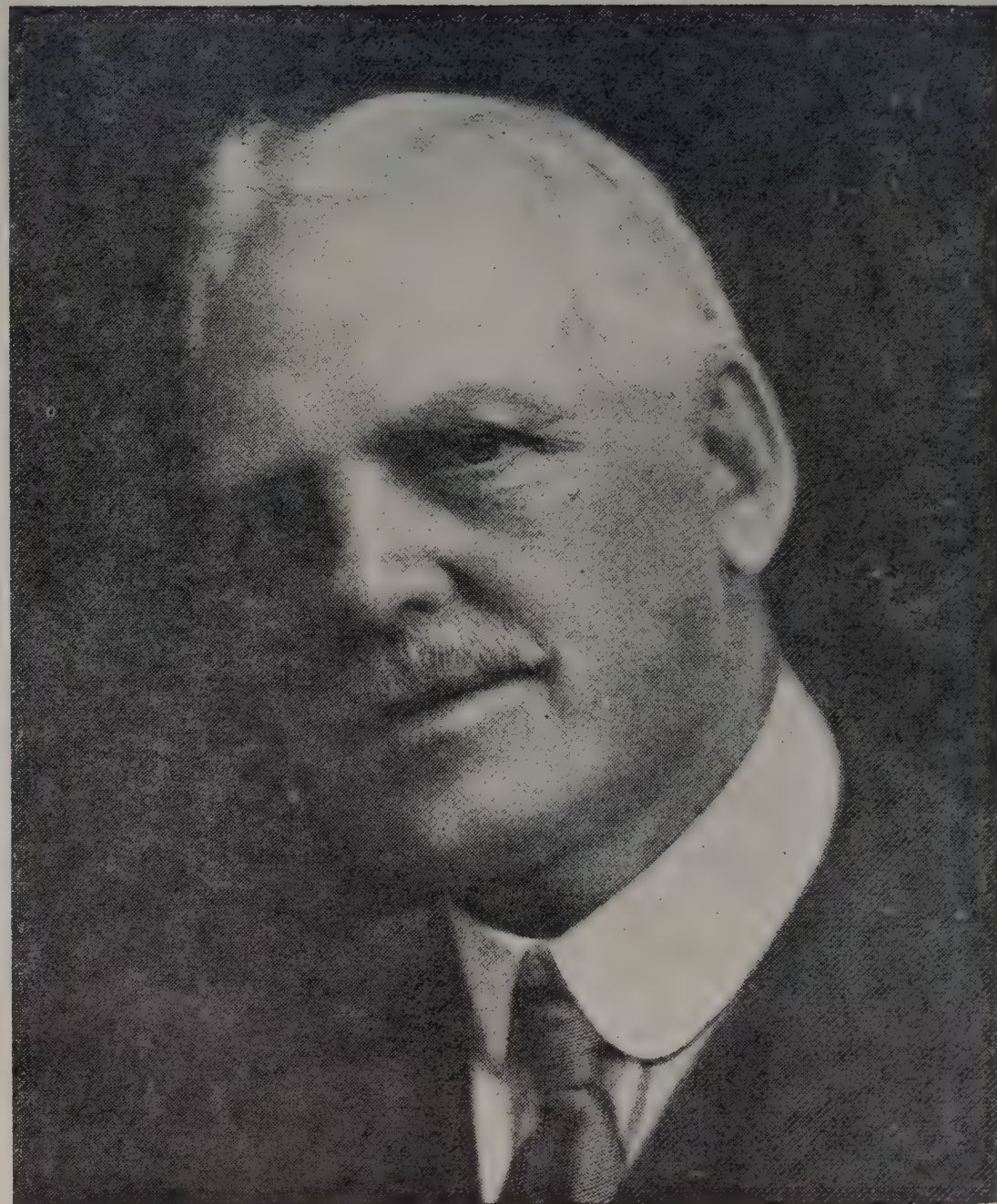
In 1881, shortly before Glen Saint Mary was organized, a young stock broker in Chicago, came to Florida on the advice of his physician. He purchased a small tract of land on the St. Marys river along the historic Old Spanish Trail. He started to work clearing a few acres of this land for a home site and for farming purposes. The man's name was George L. Taber.

"Being particularly interested in fruit raising, he decided to plant a peach orchard. He budded a number of peach trees himself and having more than he needed, disposed of the surplus to other settlers in the vicinity. Finding the sales profitable and having completely regained his health, he continued to add other lines of fruit trees and ornamentals to his list."

After 25 years of successful operation of the nursery as private property the business was incorporated in 1907 under the name of Glen Saint Mary Nursery Co. Following his retirement from the Presidency of the Company in 1920 Mr. Taber continued to maintain a close relationship with the company until his death in 1929. Dr. H. Harold Hume, nationally known horticulturist, botanist and author, having joined the company in 1906 assumed the



JAMES D. CHALKER lived in Macclenny and held every elected office in the county except sheriff.



GEORGE L. TABER

Presidency in 1920. He now serves as Chairman of the Board. He was succeeded as President by H. E. Cornell in 1929 which position he held until his "untimely death in 1943."

Through the 78 years of its existance the company has continued to grow until it now has holdings in Winter Haven and Dundee, site of the Citrus branch; Tampa, where the company bought the Buck Eye Nurseries in 1924; and of course in Glen Saint Mary where the business began.

Through the years the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries have been responsible for discovering or developing many new products. Among them the Lu Gim Gong orange, discovered by the Chinese horticulturist Lu Gim Gong of Deland, and the Hamlin orange an extremely early variety maturing in October.

"Another notable achievement contributed by the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries was the standardization of orange varieties." From over 40 varieties available in 1912 through a gradual process of elimination the orange trees have been reduced in number to about nine. There are now available three grapefruit trees plus many other kinds of fruit trees and ornamentals.

The present officers of the Company are George L. Taber, Jr., President; A. G. Scott, Vice President; A. M. Greene, Sect. and Treas.; and George L. Tabor 3rd, Assistant Sect.

We indicated earlier that the organization of the Glen District was an indication that the population was shifting eastward. The Census of 1870 showed 221 white families in the county with 991 people and 62 colored families containing 334 individuals. During the 15 years from then until 1885 the population had grown considerably, and it is safe to say that much of this growth had taken place in Glen Saint Mary and Macclenny. In any event there were enough people living here to petition for a change of the County Seat as we see next.

December 7, 1885. A Petition of a number of citizens was presented asking the County Commissioners for an election for the removal of the county site, also bond given by C. B. McClenny was ordered filed and on consideration it was moved and carried that a committee of three of the Board, viz: J. M. Thompson, William Jennings, and G. C. Dyess with the Clerk of the Board be appointed to examine said Petition as to being legal voters of the County and to report at their meeting first Monday in January next.

The question of the Petition for the removal of the County site was rescinded and moved and carried to examine the signers names and to compare with registration book on Monday the 14th next.

December 14, 1885. This being the day appointed for examining the Petition to remove the County site for an election, said Petition having been examined and found to contain one third the required number of registered voters of the County is hereby ordered that the Petition be granted and that Tuesday the 26 day of January next be appointed the day holding said election, and, the following named persons are appointed Inspectors of said election:

Sanderson Precinct District No. 1 John Skeels, Wm. C. Cobb, U. C. Herndon; Olustee Precinct District No. 2 H. D. Berry, Wm. Lessene, J. F. B. McKinney; Macclenny Precinct District No. 3 H. L. Reed, Charles F. Barber, R. L. Rowe; Johnsville Precinct District No. 4, W. H. Stone, Sr., G. S. Taylor, John D. Dowling; Glen St. Mary Precinct No. 5, Isaac B. Mann, Jas. M. Strickland, George L. Taber.

It is hereby ordered that the Clerk have published in the Baker County Standard notice for the holding of an election for county site of Baker County for the term of thirty days.

February 1, 1886. Election Returns for removal of
County Site.

This being a called meeting for the purpose of Publicly Canvassing the vote for an Election held in said County for the purpose of changing the location of the County site of said County for the purpose of changing the location of the County site of said County: W. Jennings, J. M. Thompson, Wm. J. Thompson, G. C. Dyess and J. C. Williams, Chairman.

State of Florida

Baker County

It appearing to this Board that the Petition to the Board of County Commissioners of Baker County praying for the location of the County site at the unincorporated town of Macclenny are not in the terms and conditions of the Act, Chapter 1890, Laws of 1872, That this Board has no Jurisdiction to act in this matter and the election so held in Conformity to said order for said Election has no legal effect and is therefore illegal, void and non effect, the same is ordered by this Board.

February 22, 1886—Tabulation of Votes.

Ordered by this Board that the Clerk record the vote of

Election held, for Removal and against Removal of County site of Baker County as canvassed 1st Feb. A. D. 1886 and ommitted to be entered on that day through error.

	For Removal	Against Removal	Total
Sanderson Dist. No. 1	19	134	152
Olustee Dist. No. 2	36	26	62
Macclenny Dist. No. 3	138	00	138
Johnsville Dist. No. 4	20	48	68
Glen St. Mary Dist. No. 5	30	12	42
TOTAL VOTES	243	220	463

Majority for removal of County Site from Sanderson to Macclenny was 23 votes.

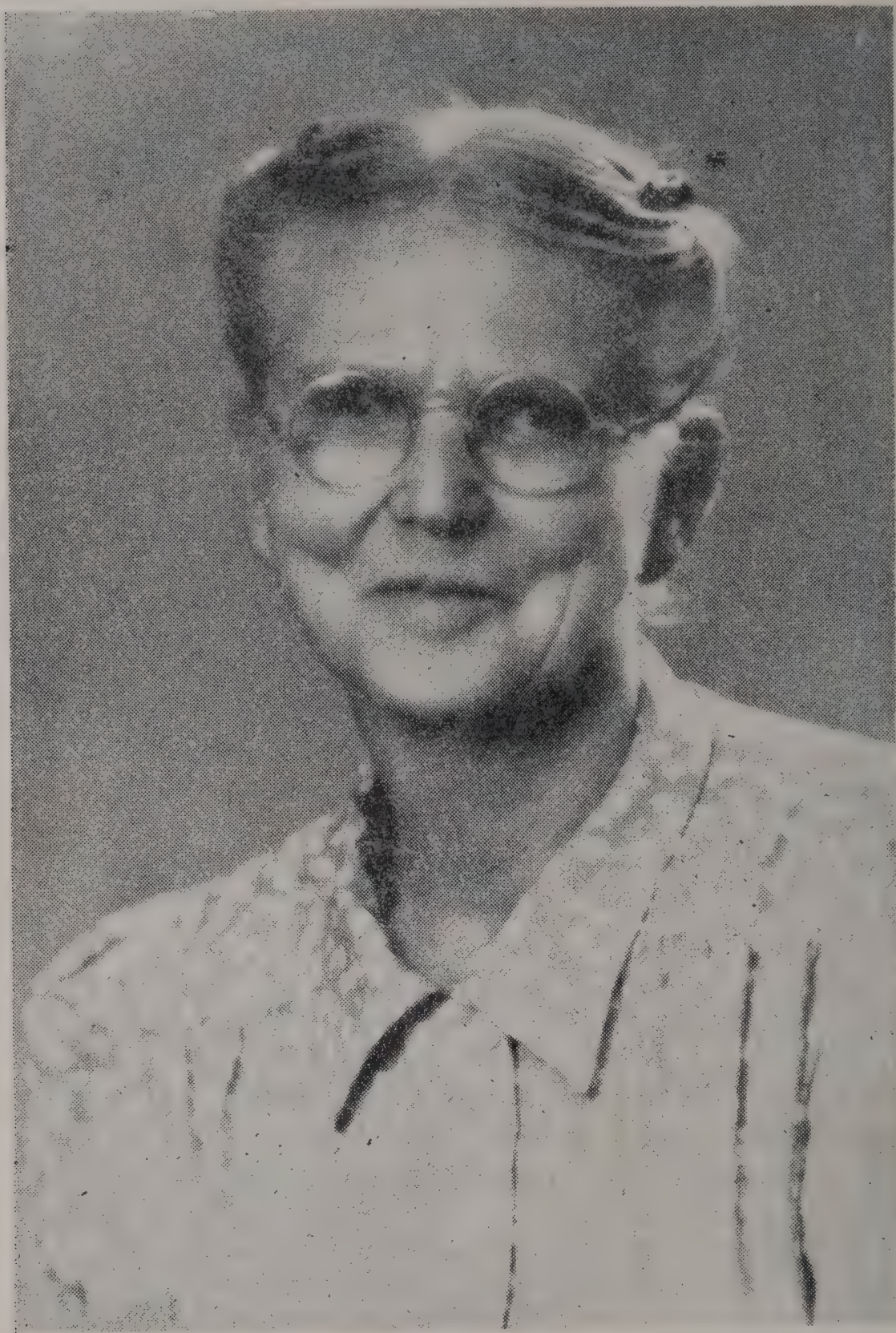
Moved and carried this Board appear before Supreme Court to show cause why they did not declare election in favor of the Town of Macclenny.

Resolve that this Board employ Counsel to defend said cause before Supreme Court and that the Chairman of this Board be empowered to select and employ said Counsel.

We think it is interesting to note that about 7 percent of the people living in Sanderson District No. 1 were willing for a change whereas 100 percent of the people living in District No. 3 (Macclenny) were for a change. In any event such a change could not have been made without some hardship and difficulties, but such is our democratic system.

It is not our purpose to present the work and history of the churches here, for we will list the churches later. But during the 1880s two things happened which are important enough to be recorded. Both of these things have to do with the church.

The Episcopal church had been a strong church in the county for years with congregations in such places as Margaretta, St. Marys, Cedar Creek and Macclenny. The work had been built up by a minister of the church—Rev. C. S. Snowdan—who also looked after the work in Lake City. On September 15, 1885 the St. Johns Academy for girls was built by a local Episcopalian donator at the instigation of Mr. Snowdan. Here is an account of this school which reads as follows: "St. Johns Academy and Boarding School for girls after a desperate struggle for three years in Macclenny, has at last become an institution of the Diocese. On April 22, 1885, C. B. McClenny was persuaded to begin the erection of buildings suitable for such an enterprise at a cost of about \$8,000. On September 15, 1885, St. Johns offered its first scholastic year in its new



Mrs. Lathana Harvey was born Jan. 28 1871. She is 90 years of age. She is a native of Baker county, daughter of the late John and Sarah Dowling of the Taylor section. On July 17, 1886 she married Charley Harvey, now deceased.



House of hewn logs that is well over 100 years old and is still being lived in.

Photo from Sundtime Sept. 19, 1953

building, and its roll of nine boarding and 60 day schools."

Things went along fine for awhile and then tragedy struck a blow not only to the school but the town of Macclenny as well. The Yellow Fever epidemic broke out in Jacksonville and was brought into Baker County. The Rev. Mr. Snowdan who was thought to be immune to the disease was one of the first ones stricken. We are told that the trains which ran from "Tallahassee to Baldwin were not allowed to stop. As the train passed through Macclenny provisions were thrown off. This was the only way in which people obtained food."

As a result of the epidemic of 1888 the school was closed never to open again. People were dying one after another. In the Episcopal Church records show that "more than 90 percent of the congregations were wiped out in the disaster."

Many other things need to be said to bring this history up to date. Space will not permit us to do more than just barely mention a few of the things which happened from 1900 on.

The beginning of the 20th Century found things much different than when Baker County was formed. The main business at that time were cattle raising, turpentineing,

lumbering, farming, growing of nursery stock. In later years others have been added such as the pulp wood industry, and within the last three years the N. E. Florida State Hospital. Other changes have taken place throughout the county which have greatly affected the population. Osceola National Forest, established in 1931, has taken 80,000 acres from the county placing it under government management. Other large tracts of timber and land have been purchased by large companies where the land is being carefully managed and trees being planted for future use.

Perhaps the greatest changes in the county during the last 50 years came during the period of 1930-1950. We should like to sum up this history by listing a few of these improvements and evident changes.

The first of these changes we should like to mention are those which are classed as services to the people of the county. There are two of them the first being the County Social Welfare work which reaches into every section. In the beginning it was little more than relief such as handing out commodities. Through the years it has been expanded until it is the major agency that has contact with all other Federal, State, County and local organizations. The first Board member was B. J. Padgett who served in 1936. Today there are two board members: Mrs. William Knabb and Mrs. Wilma Morris. The first resident social worker was Mrs. Morris and present resident workers are Edgar Crawford and Felton Thrift.

About 1934 the County Health Department began to function in the county. Dr. D. C. Witt was the first Health Officer and Miss Olive Gause the first nurse. The present health officer is Dr. Bertram Woolsly and nurses are Mrs. J. E. (Bertha Todd) Wolfe, Jr.; Supervisor and Mrs. Ray Thomas. Dr. S. F. Harris was the first sanitation officer while the present one is Arlie Rhoden.

Secondly, are the services to the business of the county. We could not pretend to list all of these for there are too many. However we feel we should mention three of them. The U. S. Forest Service has played a valuable part in the development and protection of our forests and rich timber resources. Through the maintenance of fire towers and patrols throughout the county this organization has done a splendid job. Next there is the U. S. Naval Stores Experimental Station which carries on experiments with Naval Stores for the purpose of producing better quality of naval store products. The Southern Forest Experimental

Station carries on research to develop better forest management. Transferred from Gainesville in 1931 this station works with slash pine and long leaf pine trees. At present about 25 men are employed in this work at Olustee.

Next there are those areas of growth which have produced jobs and opportunities for increased revenue. Among them we would like to name Southern States Nurseries one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the southeast. construction of homes and public buildings, growth of the pulp-wood industry to the place where Baker County ranks near the top of the list in number of units cut and sold each year. Utilities such as Florida Power and Light Co., N. E. Florida Telephone Co., and other utilities have greatly expanded their services to the benefit of all.

Finally there have been those improvements which have brought not only the residents of the county but all who pass through. Up until 1922 there were no paved roads in the county. U. S. 90 became the first. Running through the county from east to west it was completed in 1924. State Road No. 23 running from Raiford to Macclenny was begun in 1938 and finished in 1941. Since then many other roads have been built helping to open the county to ease of travel and communication.



Little "Mr. Centennial" Ken Sands son of Mr. and Mrs. Holland Sands. Little "Miss Centennial" Lori Cook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wildon Cook.

CHURCHES OF BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA

We believe that it is fitting that our history close on a religious note. Surely nothing plays a bigger part in the lives of most people than their religious faith. Though we are tempted to give a full account of the many churches in the county, space will not permit the listing of the churches that we know of. No doubt some will be missed. For this we express our deepest regrets but we have been dependent upon others to help us collect this information.

Dates listed indicate the time when the churches were noted in some official document or record.

Here is the list prepared by Mrs. Asa Coleman for information given her or discovered through her many years of research on history of Baker County.

The first church deed recorded was on Feb. 22, 1882 from Marcella C. and F. J. Pons to Methodist Episcopal Church in Sanderson.

The oldest church that we have record of in the county is the Bethel Baptist Church (located near Woodlawn Cemetery) in 1877. This church dissolved in 1887 and united with the First Baptist Church in Macclenny, which was organized in May 1883.

Mrs. Frank Rowe states that her grandfather was married in the Mt. Olive Methodist Church (which was located at Manntown) in 1848 or 1849, although deed to this property was not recorded until 5-14-1896.

The Chapel of the Holy Cross, Episcopal Church at Margaretta was organized in 1878.

The dates are when the church was constituted or in case no record was available the date the deed was recorded.

- 1877 Bethel Baptist Church, Macclenny.
- 1878 Episcopal, Chapel of the Holy Cross, Margaretta.
- 1878 North Prong Primitive Baptist Church N. Sanderson.
- 1880 Episcopal, St. Mary's Cedar Creek, Glen.
- 1881 Pine Grove New Congregational Methodist Church. Taylor.
- 1882 Methodist Episcopal Church, Sanderson.
- 1883 First Baptist Church, Macclenny.
- 1884 Macclenny Methodist Church, Macclenny.
- 1887 Olustee Baptist Church, Olustee.
- 1889 Macedonia Methodist Church, Macclenny.
- 1889 Methodist Church (near Lon Dugger place).
- 1892 Pleasant Grove Primitive Baptist Church.
- 1893 Glen St. Mary Methodist Church.
- 1896 Mount Carmel Primitive Baptist Church.
- 1896 Mount Olive Methodist Church, Glen.
- 1898 Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church, Sanderson.
- 1905 Cedar Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Sanderson.
- 1906 First Congregational Church, Glen.
- 1907 Macclenny Church of Christ, Macclenny.
- 1907 Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church.

(Bethlehem meeting house is mentioned in the minutes of the Board of County Commissioners

- 11-5-1877 at this same location.)
- 1908 Dinkins New Congregational Methodist Church.
- 1911 Cypress Grove New Congregational Methodist church.
- 1912 Oak Grove Primitive Baptist Church
- 1915 Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Olustee.
- 1916 Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Glen.
- 1918 Congregational Methodist Church near Steel bridge.
- 1917 Oak Grove Primitive Baptist Church.
- 1919 Oak Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Manning.
- 1919 Glen St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church.
- 1921 Cuiler Church of God.
- 1927 Pine Level New Congregational Methodist Church.
- 1927 Olustee Church of God.
- 1929 Macclenny Church of God.
- 1929 Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints.
- 1931 Mt. Calvary New Congregational Methodist Church.
- 1935 Mt. Olive Holiness Congregational Methodist church.
- 1936 Taylor Holiness Cong.
- 1936 Sanderson Congregational Holiness Church.
- 1940 Pleasant Rock Congregational Holiness Church.
- 1948 Mt. Zion New Congregational Methodist Church.
- 1950 Raiford Road Church of Christ.
- 1950 Faith Baptist Church.
- 1950 Macclenny Primitive Baptist Church.
- 1951 Baxter Church of God.
- 1959 Catholic Church, Macclenny.

BAKER COUNTY CENTENNIAL

May 4-7, 1961

PROPOSED BUDGET

Street Dance, Band and Decorations	\$ 125.00
Dress Review, Prizes and Decorations	150.00
Selection of Centennial Belle Prizes	250.00
Fireworks Display	200.00
Parade	300.00
Bar-B-Q	2,500.00
Centennial Ball Band and Decorations	275.00
United Church Program publicity	30.00
Street Decorations	500.00
Pictures to be used for Permanent Historical Records	250.00
Printing, Pictures, News, Adv., Posters, Centennial Programs	750.00
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	\$5,330.00



SCHOOL PLAY AT TAYLOR—PICTURE 1913

"Mid Summer Eve". Back row: left to right: Everett Johns, Lillian Ruis, Bert Dowling, Loy Dowling, Ella Taylor, Retha Dowling, Drew Dowling, Lila Harvey, Frank Dowling Sarah Combs Nonie Crews Maude Williams, Lottie Dowling, Cleopat-

ra Crews,; second row: Lois Dowling, Julia Dowling, Paul Crews, Elmer Johns, Warren Taylor, Artis Harvey; kneeling: Nolie Johns, Ruby Crews, Mae Taylor, Cecil Crews, Essie Johns, Gladys Ruis, Ophelia Dowling, Sarah Williams.

CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF BAKER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Practically all of the schools records of Baker County for the first 45 years have been destroyed, so until 1906 there is very little to gather information from.

Jos. L. Howell was the first school superintendent that we find any record of. This was on May 18, 1874 and for a number of years the Superintendents only served a one year term.

We find in a memo book of A. J. W. Cobb, who was County Superintendent for a number of years, the expenses of the scholastic year of 1878 and 1876, ending September 30, 1879 amounting to \$938.00 with 15 schools (12 white and 3 colored). The teachers at that time were: R. L. Cooper, J. R. Plympton, J. C. Longwell, William Lasesne, Lewis Cobb, E. G. Rogerson, Miss G. H. Fraser, Miss Mattie Knight, John P. Sapp, George Abbott (all white) and Walker Swain, Marion DeGreat and Sanders Wilson (colored). It seems as though two teachers were teaching at two different schools or taught a term at one school and then a term at the other.

On May 25, 1878 the Board paid out \$544.10 and left in the treasury a balance of \$46.19.

June 22, 1878 the rate of pay for teachers was set at \$30.00 for a third grade certificate and \$40.00 for a second grade. The County Superintendent was allowed 50.00 for the year. The Superintendent was often found to be teaching also.

At the July 27, 1878 meeting of the Board they established a school to be known as Barbers Bay School No. 15 and John P. Sapp was hired as the teacher and Cedar Grove No. 16 with George Abbott as the teacher.

August 24, 1878 the Board decided to allow each school \$40.00 to operate with.

In 1892 we find 8 white and 1 colored schools in Baker County with an enrollment of 177 white and 32 colored children. At this time the School Board only had two schools listed as being their property, viz: Olustee No. 7, valued at 250.00 and Dowling No. 10 valued at \$75.00. There was furniture listed at each school in the county with a total valuation of \$214.00. Just why the other school buildings were not listed with a value is not known. The total salaries paid to the entire teaching staff for this term was \$820.00.

The first County High School was in Macclenny in 1903-04 and was an eight months term with the Principal and three assistant teachers and an enrollment of 134 pupils.

On October 12, 1907 the Board accepted a bid from C. C. Cowart to build a school, to be known as Thornton School No. 6 for \$180.89, and from John W. Brannen to build a school to be known as Douglas School No. 11 for \$195.00. November 5, 1907 a bid was accepted from Arch Jones to build Sapp School No. 43 for \$207.00. Teachers pay for that year was \$30.00 for a third grade certificate, \$35.00 for a second and \$40.00 for a first.

During 1908 through 1913 several schools were built in the County and they began consolidating the schools. It seems that through the years the number of schools had climbed to 27, but in June 1913 after several had been consolidated there were only 19. As the schools were consolidated the old school buildings were sold and many times we find that classes were held in church buildings. Most of the schools were built on land belonging to an individual which was never deeded to the County. July 6, 1914 one school building was sold for \$8.00.

October 7, 1918 all schools were closed that were infected with Spanish Influenza.

On account of the attendance law the Board was compelled to enlarge some of the school buildings in July, 1919, viz: Alford, Dinkins and Sapp. They voted to add an extra room on each school.

July 4, 1921 the Board voted to hold election of Special School Tax District No. 1 (Macclenny) to bond for \$20,000 to build a new school. The election was held August 6 with 45 votes for Bonds and 34 against.

August 1, 1921 a reward of \$500.00 was offered by the Board for the arrest and conviction of the parties who burned the Macclenny School on June 6, 1921. (This school was located by the Baptist Church, where William Knabb home now stands). The school purchased five acres of land for \$500.00 from the Episcopal Church (where the old Academy sat) as the site of the new school building. They in turn sold the old Academy for \$255.00 to Baker County Sales Company. In September 1922 the School sold the property where the school burned to Avery G. Powell for \$200.00

February 15, 1922 the bonds were sold to G. B. Sawyers Company of Jacksonville for \$18,900.00 at 6 percent interest. July 17, 1922 the contract was let to W. T. Had-

low for \$21,945.00 and December 16, 1922 the new school building was accepted.

May 15, 1922 election was held for Special Tax School District No. 2 at Glen St. Mary to build a new school building for \$7,000.00 but it failed to pass, the vote being 10 for and 26 against. July 18, 1923 another election was held and this time the vote was 28 for and 18 against.

In 1922 there were 19 white schools in the county and the teachers salaries for that term was \$17,090.00. Five colored schools were listed with the the teachers salaries as \$680.00.

The Board passed a resolution on October 1, 1923 designating the Barnett National Bank of Jacksonville as County depository for all schools funds of Baker county to Jan. 1, 1924. Resolution passed to notify the U.S. Fidelity & Guaranty Company of Baltimore, Md., that the Baker county State Bank was in the hands of a receiver and to furnish said Company with a certified copy of the amount of all School Funds which were on deposit in the Baker County State Bank October 1 1923.

September 1, 1924 the Board requested that all teachers meet at the Macclenny School on Saturday, September 13th to organize a County Teachers Association.

December 1, 1924 the Board passed a resolution that each teacher in the County is to attend teachers meetings unless a reasonable excuse is furnished. Each teachers salary to be cut one day that they do not attend.

September 7, 1925 an election was held in the District to see if the patrons wanted to consolidate the schools at Harvey, Douglas, Cedar Creek and Green with Sanderson. An election was held January 8, 1926 to vote on bond issue of \$25,000.00 to build a new school at Sanderson. The election carried and the bonds were sold to T. J. Knabb on February 7, 1927 for \$23,500.00.

February 22, 1928 election was held at Olustee No. 5 to bond for new school building there for \$15,000.00 and was carried. These bonds were sold to T. J. Knabb for 97 1-2 percent.

As time went on all the smaller schools were consolidated with the larger ones as the County continued to grow.

October 9, 1929 the Board authorized the County Superintendent to have a telephone installed in his office. I am sure W. H. Milton appreciated having a telephone in his office, especially since there were very few in the county.

On April 5, 1930 an election was held in the Macclen-

ny-Glen St. Mary Districts to determine if they shall issue bonds in the sum of \$15,000.00 to build a new High School in Macclenny. The vote was 86 for and 65 against. On July 7, 1930 the contract was let to Hinely Construction Company for \$12,500.00.

August 27, 1930 the Mann school burned, and during the next two years we find more schools in the county consolidated.

In 1931 we find 1321 white and 308 colored children enrolled in school.

November 5, 1932 found another election in the county in District No. 2, Taylor, to determine if they wanted to bond for a new school. The vote was 22 for and 21 against for the bond issue of \$20,000.00.

July 3, 1933 we find 12 schools in the county and a continued growth in new school buildings and additions with more land being purchased for the additions. The new Taylor school building was accepted on May 4, 1939 and on October 18, 1939 the addition to Macclenny and Glen schools were accepted.

Since 1940 the School System in the county has continued to improve. At the present time all white high school students attend Baker County High at Macclenny and all colored students attend Keller High School in Macclenny.

A comparison of the school system in 1940-41 and 1960-61 shows the following:

1940-1941		1960-1961
\$126,520.00	BUDGET	\$701,219.00
5 (white)	SCHOOLS	5 (white) (1 high school)
6 (colored)		3 (colored) (1 high school)
48 (white)	TEACHERS	65 (white)
12 (colored)		18 (colored)
1,111 (white)	ENROLLMENT	1,458 (white)
278 (colored)		438 (colored)

HISTORY OF MASONIC LODGES IN BAKER COUNTY

Although there were individual masons, living and working in this section, when the County was founded in 1861, there was no organized lodge in existence here at that time. We believe, from the old records in Jacksonville, that members of lodges in Lake City and Bradford County were instrumental in requesting permission to form a lodge in Sanderson in the latter part of 1870.

A circuit riding Preacher, Rev. Dawkins, was the prime mover in this quest and in January of 1871, the Dawkins Lodge, named in honor of the Circuit Riding Preacher, was formed. In February 17, 1871 Dawkins Lodge was chartered and given the number 60, the charter was granted dispensation by R. W. A. J. Russell, then Deputy Grand Master of Florida, Most Worshipful Samuel Pasco was at that time, Grand Master of Florida Masons.

It may be interesting to note, that Dawkins Lodge is the only Lodge on record in the State of Florida, to have its Charter granted by any Grand Lodge officer other than the Grand Master.

Bro. J. J. (Uncle Bud) Williams was the first master, and Edwin Robinson the first Secretary.

In January 17, 1889 a Charter was granted to Olustee Lodge No. 104, Bro. R. H. Cox was Master. This Lodge surrendered its Charter 12-27-1928.

The next Lodge to be granted a Charter was Sanderson Lodge on Jan. 27, 1891, and this lodge is the other one in Baker County which has been active through the years and is still active today, this Lodge was numbered 122. Master was Bro. Elias Williams, the present Master of this Lodge is Dave Owen of Olustee. The next Lodge to receive a Charter was Glen Lodge 158 located in a building to the South of the old Glen St. Mary Post Office, was chartered in 1906 and surrendered said Charter in Dec. 27, 1932.

There was also a lodge at Taylor, which was Chartered under the number 211, on January 22, 1913. The Charter was forfeited on January 1922.

An interesting item is that the first Worshipful Master of Taylor Lodge No. 211, was Bro. A. M. Rhoden, whose son W. W. Rhoden is the present Worshipful Master of Dawkins Lodge 60.

The only other Lodge to have been granted a Charter in Baker County was Sapp Lodge 244, located at Sapp although the community of Sapp is no longer in existence. It was located on the present Raiford road, at the south boundary of Baker County. The first master of this Lodge was Bro. Thomas J. Alford, Charter was granted Jan. 18, 1917 and was forfeited Dec. 27, 1929.

Dawkins Lodge No. 60 and Sanderson Lodge No. 122 are a part of Masonic District No. 8, which include the counties of Baker, Union, Bradford and one Lodge in Duval (Baldwin).



Left to right: Millard Brown, Senator Edwin Fraser, Luther Harrell, Lonnie Johns, Gov. C. Farris

Bryant, J. E. Combs, A. E. Smith, Sam Saunders, Mrs. I. D. Burnsed, Vernon Walker, John J. Crews

CENTENNIAL PARADE UNITS

MARCHING

Boy Scouts
Baker High Band
Bradford High Band
Union High Band
Billy Mitchell Drill Team
Duval Motorcycle Unit
F. F. A.

Girl Scouts

HORSE & BUGGY UNITS

Taylor P.T.A.
Southern Resin
Hugh Griffin
Macclenny Riding Club
W. C. Dennis
Wm. Knabb
Bradford Sheriff's Posse
Coca Cola
Bill Officer
Duval Sheriff's Posse
Bear Yarborough
Charlie McCormick
Charlie McCormick
Baldwin Buggy

FLOATS

Macclenny Elementary PTA
Glen P.T.A.
Southern Resin
Southern Resin
Sinclair Oil Co.
Griffin Motor Co.
Blue Haven
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Dupree
Yarborough Gas Service
Rochester & Jackson
Florida Forest Service

Baker County

Sanderson P.T.A.
Johns Truck Stop
Knabb Turpentine Co.
Glen St. Mary Nursery
Thrift's Hardware
Wheless Pharmacy
Lions Club
Macclenny Methodist church
Barnes Department Store
Florist Corner & Gift Shop
Libby's Flowers
Mrs. J. C. Yarborough
Roy Yarbrough
B and P W Club
Junior Womans Club
Macclenny Cabinet Shop
Garden Club
Blair's & Southern States
Nurseries
Billy Wells
Webb's Feed Store
The Barbers
Freddie Jack Morrison
Florida Sheriff's Association
Belle Float
Fraser Memorial Hospital
Macclenny Cash Store
Citizens Bank
Standard Oil Company
Odom's Deparement Store
Jax Tractor Company
Paul's Drug Store
Beta Club—Lewis Covin
Senior Woman's Club

OLDEST MAN IN BAKER COUNTY

We should like to pay special tribute to Andrew J. Mobley born in Baker County, October 7, 1876. He and Mrs. Mobley were married on August 16, 1899 and live in Macclenny with their son Donald.

COUNTY OFFICIALS

First

Present

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION

James M. Keene
George W. Roberts
W. N. Thames
Elias Wester

Roy Harvey, Chairman
Wassie Fish
Neil Kirkland
B. H. Rowe
Paul Thrift

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

F. J. Pons

Joe Dobson

JUDGE OF PROBATE & COUNTY JUDGE

John Harvey

B. R. Burnsed

JUDGE OF CRIMINAL COURT

Scott R. Bonham

(County) B. R. Burnsed

(8th Judicial Circuit) Geo. L. Patten, John A. H. Murphree

COUNTY SHERIFF

James M. Burnside

E. Ed Yarbrough

TAX ASSESSOR & COLLECTOR

S. J. Stallings

(Assessor) L. W. Douberly

(Collector) T. J. Raulerson

COUNTY SURVEYOR

B. A. Howell

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Wm. N. Thomas

J. E. Combs, Jr.

COUNTY CORONER

W. J. Barnes

Dr. John E. Watson

SUPERVISOR OF REGISTRATION

Arthur Combs

AGRICULTURAL AGENT

E. W. Turner

A. Luther Harrell

COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Jos. L. Howell (Supervisor)

L. L. Dugger

A. J. W. Cobb (Superintendent)

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

(Original list not known)

W. T. Mann, Chairman

W. M. (Billy) Knabb

Mrs. Violet Dobson

Reid Stafford

Mrs. Arch Thrift

STATE SENATOR

Edwin G. Fraser

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

John J. Crews, Jr.